

LEADING

No. 8

FALL
ISSUE

Ten Cents



Leading COMICS



1843

1943

**GO BACK
THROUGH THE
CENTURIES
WITH THE**

**SEVEN SOLDIERS
OF VICTORY!**



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**WORLD'S FINEST COMICS
PICTURE STORIES FROM THE BIBLE***

*Because the War Production Board has ordered all publishers to use 30% less paper than in 1942, MORE FUN and ADVENTURE will be published bi-monthly; ALL-FLASH, ALL-STAR COMICS, WONDER WOMAN and MUTT & JEFF will become quarterly. ALL-AMERICAN COMICS will be published only eight times and PICTURE STORIES FROM THE BIBLE only twice in 1943.

GOOD BOOKS WORTH READING

reviewed by **JOSETTE FRANK,**

Director of Children's Reading,

CHILD STUDY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

PX

By Malcolm Taylor

It was the year 1969. Harold Vane lost in the fog while piloting his plane over the English Coast heard a strange radio beam sending the letters PX. Forced to land before he could get his bearings, he fell into the hands of a mysterious group of plotters at a secret landing field that was unknown to the authorities.

Held captive for a night and then released, Vane found his way to London, but determined to investigate the mystery. Enlisting the aid of his friend, John Heaton, the two boys did some heavy sleuthing and faced many personal dangers to track down the 'plotters and find out its meaning.

Together they had secretly built a super-plane which they had planned to use in the interest of world peace. How they accomplished their mission and discovered what PX stood for makes an exciting and unusual story.

SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

We are all thrilled by the gallant actions of our fighting men. But we have come to expect that as soon as America really gets into stride, it will be all over but the shouting. As a result, people feel that they can relax their war efforts . . . take it easy. Supermen of America however, will not relax their efforts until the last shot is fired! They will continue to collect scrap; buy war bonds and stamps; assist their local committees in every way possible; making sure that not one single thing that can be done to insure victory will be left undone. Their motto now is VICTORY!

Sincerely yours,
CLARK KENT

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Venus No. 2)

C IQQF DWA—DWA YCT DQFFU CPF UVCORU!

SUPERMAN, OCT.
c/o ACTION COMICS,
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of "SUPERMAN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost or mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Button and Superman Code.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY AND STATE.....

CHAPTER 1

DIABOLICAL IS THE WORD FOR THE DUMMY... THAT DIMINUTIVE DESPERADO WHO HAS MORE THAN ONCE COME CLOSE TO VANQUISHING THE VIGILANTE!... AND DIABOLICAL IS THE DUMMY'S SUCCESS IN CRIME... UNTIL THE SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY COMBINE TO CLOSE IN ON THE MURDEROUS MANNIKIN'S MOB!... THEN, IN DESPERATION, AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN DEFEAT STARES HIM IN THE FACE, THE DUMMY DEVISES A PLAN TO DOOM THE LESIONNAIRES TO A FATE THEY HAD NEVER IN THEIR WILDEST DREAMS FORESEEN... A FATE THAT CONDEMNS THEM TO BE...

"EXILES IN TIME!"



IN A QUIET AND UNSUSPECTED RETREAT, THE DUMBY, SINISTER SERVANT OF EVIL, PACES RESTLESSLY BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH...

I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO FLOPEARS AND THE OTHERS! THEY SHOULD HAVE REPORTED LONG BEFORE THIS!

MY NEW CRIME ORGANIZATION IS TOO PERFECT FOR MISTAKES TO OCCUR! I'M TOO BIG NOW FOR EVEN THE VIGILANTE TO HARM ME!

RRRING!

HELLO... FLOPEARS?

BOSS, DIS IS GAT GUNN! SOMETHIN' WENT WRONG! DA CRIMSON AVENGER AND HIS PAL CAUGHT FLOPEARS AND DA REST OF HIS MOB!

THE CRIMSON AVENGER! WHAT'S HE DOING, CROSSING MY TRAIL! IT MUST BE AN ACCIDENT...

BUT HARDLY HAS THE DUMMY HUNG UP WHEN--- RRRRING!

YES. WHAT'S THE BAD NEWS THIS TIME?

AN ACCIDENT? OH, NO DUMMY! HALF AN HOUR LATER...

BOSS, DIS IS KNUCKLES! DA OTHER BOYS ARE IN DA HOOSE-GOW! DA SHININ' KNIGHT NABBED THEM!

YOU FOOL, YOU MUST HAVE BUNDED THINGS! THE SHINING KNIGHT ISN'T EVEN AWARE OF THIS ORGANIZATION OF MINE!

BOSS, WE GOT AWAY, BUT WAS WE LUCKY! WE HAPPENED TO RUN INTO DA GREEN ARROW AND SPEEDY...

THE GREEN ARROW AND SPEEDY? THIS IS BECOMING INCREDIBLE... FANTASTIC...

I DON'T KNOW HOW YA GUESSED IT, BOSS... BUT JUST AS WE WAS GONNA PULL OFF THE JOB, WHO SHOULD COME ALONG BUT THE STAR-SPANLED KID AND STRIPESY!

DAZZE ARISES IN THE PINT-SIZED PRINCE OF PLUMBERS / ONCE MORE, BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH...



I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE OTHERS... THIS REPORT MUST BE ABOUT THE VIGILANTE HIMSELF! BLINKY'S SHREWD... MAYBE...



ME TOO, BOSS! DA VIGILANTE'S AFTER ME, AND I CAN'T SHAKE HIM! WE'D BETTER CALL THIS JOB OFF!



GOSH, IF DA DUMMY DIDN'T TELL ME TO DO IT HIMSELF, I WOULDNTA BELIEVED IT, BUT ORDERS IS ORDERS!



AND SO, SOME TIME LATER...



NO USE YOUR ASKIN' ME, VIGILANTE... I AIN'T GONNA SQUEAL ON THE DUMMY! HE'D KILL ME!

KEEP YOUR HANDS UP, SIDE-WINDER! I'M GONNA SEARCH YOU... MAYBE I'LL FIND SOMETHIN' USEFUL THAT WAY!



A RAILROAD TICKET TO LITTLETOWN! SO THAT'S WHERE THAT PINT-SIZED COYOTE IS PROBABLY HIDIN' OUT! YOU WERE GOING TO JOIN HIM!

YOU'RE WRONG,

VIGILANTE, ALL WRONGS! (I HOPE THE DUMMY GETS ME OUT OF JAIL, LIKE HE PROMISED!)



SOME TIME LATER, THE VIGILANTE PLACES HIS DISCOVERY BEFORE THE ASSEMBLED SOLDIERS OF VICTORY...

PARDNERS, WE ROUNDED UP ALL OF THE DUMMY'S SCATTERED MOBS- AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE FINALLY GOT A CLUE TO WHERE THE DUMMY HIMSELF IS OPERATIN' FROM!

AND THIS BLINKY WAS ANXIOUS TO DENY IT, HUH? YES, IT DOES SEEM PROMISING!

LET'S RUN OVER TO LITTLETOWN AND PUT THE LITTLE MONKEY IN THE CASE WHERE HE BELONGS!



NO SO, SHORTLY...

I BEEN INQUIRIN' AND I'VE LEARNED THAT A LITTLE MAN BY THE NAME OF DOMBSEY LIVES FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD!

LITTLE, EH? CAN'T BE ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE DUMMY NOW! LET'S GO!



SAY, I THOUGHT THE MAIN ROAD LED TO THE DUMMY'S PLACE! BUT ALL THESE SEEM TO GO IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS!

MAYBE THEY COME TOGETHER AGAIN! IN ANY CASE, LET'S SPLIT UP, AND EACH OF US FOLLOW ONE OF THEM! IN THAT WAY WE'LL BE SURE TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT ONE!



PLUS, SOME SECONDS LATER...

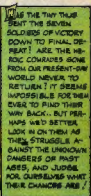
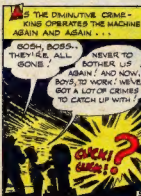
SOMETHIN' AIN'T RIGHT! THE DUMMY'S TOO FULL OF TRICKS TO BE CAUGHT UNAWARES! HE OUGHTTA BE SHOWIN' HIMSELF SOON...



SUDDENLY, THE GROUND SEEMS TO RISE BENEATH THE FEET OF THE ADVANCING LESONNAIRES...



BUT IT IS TOO LATE FOR THAT, SIR, JUSTIN! THIS ONCE THE MINIATURE MENACE HAS THE UPPER HAND!... AND PRESENTLY...



Chapter II

SENT SPEEDING
THROUGH THE
CENTURIES BY

THE MALICIOUS MANNIKIN'S CUNNING, THE GREEN ARROW AND SPEEDY DISCOVER OLD FRIENDS... AND MAKE A NEW ENEMY MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY THEY HAVE YET ENCOUNTERED! THEIR FOE'S LIGHTEST WORD IS LAW, AND HIS FROWN SPELLS DEADLY PERIL, AS THE ADVENTURERS OF PAST AND PRESENT SEEK TO SMASH THE OLD-FASHIONED FRAME-UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIDDLE OF...

"The Queen's Necklace!"



Whistling through space and time, the Green Arrow and Speedy trace a dizzy path back through the years...

AND COME TO A HALT AT LAST
IN STRANGE SURROUNDINGS
OF A PAST ERA...

WHERE ARE WE?
OR MAYBE I SHOULD
SAY WHEN ARE WE?

JUDGING FROM
THESE CLOTHES,
I'D SAY WE'RE
IN THE DAYS OF...



BUT I NEVER
REALIZED THEY
WERE SO FUNNY-
LOOKING!

NOM D'UN NOM,
WHO DARES TO JEST
AT THE APPEARANCE
OF ARAMIS?

DROP THAT
STICKER, ARAMIS!

PARBLEU!
SO YOU TRIFLE
WITH ME? YOU HAVE
CONDEMNED YOURSELF
TO DEATH!



... THE THREE
MUSKETEERS!

HUH...? THE
THREE MUSKETEERS?
GEE, THEY WERE
ALWAYS HEROES
OF MINE!



I SHALL SLICE
YOU LIMB FROM
LIMB, UNHAPPY
WRETCH!

ARAMIS WAS ALWAYS
VAIN ABOUT HIS LOOKS!
YOU'VE HIT HIM ON A
TENDER SPOT,
SPEEDY!

I DIDN'T
REALIZE HE WAS SO
TOUGH, G.A.:
AND I'M NOT TAK-
ING ANY CHAN-
ES OF GETTING
HIT ON A TEN-
DER SPOT
MYSELF...



AND NOW THE HEROES OF THE PAST
FACE THE HEROES OF THE TWENTIETH
CENTURY IN WHAT THREATENS TO BE A GRIM
BATTLE...

LUCKY OUR
OLD PAL D'ARTAGNAN
ISN'T WITH THEM! THAT
WOULD MAKE THE GODS
A LITTLE TOO
MUCH!

WHAT? THEY ARE
FRIENDS OF
D'ARTAGNAN? AH,
MIS AMIS, WE ARE
MAKING A GREAT
MISTAKE!



WE SHOULD BE FIGHTING ON THE SAME SIDE, NOT AGAINST EACH OTHER!

OWWW, DON'T BE SO FRIENDLY! YOU'RE KILLING ME WITH KINDNESS!

BUT NOW, AS ALL SEEMS PEACEFUL ONCE MORE... ENTER TROUBLE IN THE FORM OF THE KING'S GUARDS!

THERE ARE THE MUSKETEERS WE SEEK! ARREST THEM IN THE NAME OF THE KING! THEY HAVE STOLEN THE QUEEN'S NECKLACE!



THE THREE MUSKETEERS-CROOKS? IMPOSSIBLE, G.A.! I'M SURE THEY'D NEVER STEAL ANYTHING!

AND I DON'T THINK THEY'LL SUBMIT TO ARREST! GET SET TO SEE SOME SMART DUELING, SPEEDY!



NOM D'UN COCHON! I SHALL SLICE YOU LIMB FROM LIMB!

THEY SEEM TO LIKE THAT EXPRESSION! I WONDER IF THEY REALLY MEAN IT!

I THINK THEY SOUND A LITTLE BLOODTHIRSTIER THAN THEY REALLY ARE!

BUT THEY'RE PRETTY TOUGH AT THAT!

I DISARM THEE, FOOL, BUT SPARE THY LIFE!



I DO NOT LIKE THE WAY YOU WEAR YOUR FEATHER, MON AMI! IT ILL SUITS YOUR STYLE OF UGLINESS!

ARAMIS SURE WORRIES A LOT ABOUT APPEARANCES, G.A.!

SO YOU NUMSKULLS THINK I AM A THIEF, EH?

THIS IS ONE TIME WE CAN TAKE THINGS EASY, SPEEDY! THE THREE MUSKETEERS HAVE THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND!





...BUT SUDDENLY...

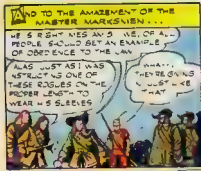
LOOK GA!
MORE
OPPOSITION!

UNFAIR ODDS!
THIS TIME WE WON'T
STAY ON THE
SIDE LINES!



BUT AS THE WIZARD ARCHERS
FIT ARROWS TO THE R
BOWSTRINGS

HAVE YOU
ARE BREAKING
THE KING'S LAW! HE
HAS PASSED AN EDICT
FORBIDDING OUTLAW



AND TO THE AMAZEMENT OF THE
MASTER MARKSMEN...

WE SIGHT THEM AND WE, OF ALL
PEOPLE, SHOULD SET AN EXAMPLE
OF OBEDIENCE TO THE LAW

ALAS JUST AS I WAS
INSTRUCTING ONE OF
THESE ROGUES IN THE
PROPER LENGTH TO
WEAR HIS SLEEVES

WHAT?
THEY'RE GIVING
A JUST LIE
THAT



TAKEN BEFORE THE MIGHTY MONARCH HIM-
SELF, THE MUSKETEERS RECEIVE QUICK
JUDGMENT...

SO THESE
ARE THE ROGUES
WHO STOLE THE QUEEN'S
JEWELS. THEIR FACES PRO-
CLAIM THEIR GUILT

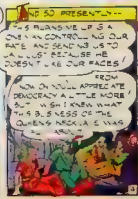


AND THESE ARCHERS
WERE ABOUT TO AD
THEM? HMM, NEVER
SAW I SUCH RASCALLY
COUNTENANCES

I DEMAND
A FARTREAR!
THIS ISN'T
LEGAL!



LEGAL? I'VE SLAVE, KNOW
YOU NOT THAT I AM THE
LAW! TO THE DUNGEON
WITH THEM! A DIRT OF
BREAD AND WATER WILL
TEACH THEM THE
RESPECT THEY OWE,
THEIR LIEGE!



...AND SO PRESENTLY--

THIS MEANS WE'VE UP TO A
ONE MAN CONTROLLING OUR
FATE, AND SENDING US TO
JAIL JUST BECAUSE HE
DOESN'T LIKE OUR FACES!

FROM
NOW ON YOU'LL APPRECIATE
DEMOCRACY A LITTLE MORE,
BUT WHEN I KNEW WHAT
THE BUSINESS OF THE
QUEEN'S NECKLINE WAS
ABOUT

PAROLE. THAT IS SIMPLE ENOUGH. THE KING PRESENTED THE QUEEN WITH A STRING OF PEARLS AT CHRISTMAS TIME AND PROPOSED HER ANOTHER JUST LIKE IT ON HER BIRTHDAY.

BUT SOME DARING THIEF SWAGGED THE PEARLS, AND STOLE THE NECKLACE FROM BENEATH THE NOSES OF THE GUARDS. NO WONDER THE KING IS ENRAGED.



BUT WHY PICK ON THE MUSKETEERS? WHAT EVIDENCE CONNECTS YOU WITH THE CRIME?

NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER. BUT A CRIME HAS BEEN COMMITTED AND THE CRIMINALS MUST BE FOUND. AND SOME OF THE KING'S STRONGEST ADVISERS DO NOT LIKE US, SO... HERE WE ARE!



AND WE CAN EXPOSE IT BY FINDING THE REAL THIEF!

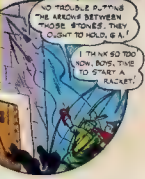
EASER SAID THAN DONE MY YOUNG FRIEND! BEFORE YOU CAN EXPOSE ANYTHING, YOU MUST ESCAPE FROM THIS DUNGEON!



AND THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE! EVEN MY GREAT STRENGTH CANNOT MOVE THESE WALLS!



HASTY EXPLANATION. AND NOW TWO BOWSTRIKES TWANG, AND TWO ARROWALINES STREAK UPWARD.



THESE CURSED MUSKETEERS MAKE MORE NOISE THAN A THOUSAND ORDINARY PRISONERS.



IF THEY ARE HIDING BEHIND THE DOOR, WE'LL BE READY FOR THEM!



THE JAILORS ARE PREPARED FOR EVERYTHING... EXCEPT WHAT HAPPENS! SUDDENLY...

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO KEEP YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND CHUMS.

BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO HAVE YOUR HEADS IN THE CLOUDS ONCE IN A WHILE YOU MIGHT FARN WHAT'S GOING ON.



PRESENTLY...

WITH ALL THESE KEYS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING OUT

TROUBLE IS WE HAVE TOO MANY KEYS



IT MIGHT TAKE US A QUARTER OF AN HOUR TO FIND THE RIGHT ONE TO THIS DOOR FOR EXAMPLE

PARDON, MESSIEURS. I HAVE A KEY OF MY OWN, WHICH WILL FIT THIS DOOR



THE GIANT MUSKETEER'S GREAT HANDS GRASP THE STEEL BARS.. NIGHTY MUSCLES STRAIN HEROICALLY ... AND SECONDS AFTERWARD ..

UGH I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE EASIER.. I MUST BE GETTING WEAK

WOW. I WISH I WAS THAT WEAK.

NEVER MIND THE COMPLIMENTS SPEEDY. PORTHOS IS USED TO THEM WE'VE GOT TO KEEP GOING

I CARRY THEM IN THESE TWO HANDS ONE MOMENT AND YOU SHALL SEE

HLH ? BUT WHERE ?



MOMENTS LATER

WHERE TO, NOW, MESSIEURS?

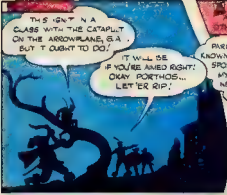
THE PALACE WE HAVE TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF WHO STOLE THAT NECKLACE... AND THAT'S THE PLACE TO DO IT



BUT IT IS TOO WELL GUARDED 'THE MOMENT WE TRY TO GET IN WE SHALL BE CAUGHT AGAIN.

NOT IF WE GET IN MY WAY' COME ON, BOYS... I'M GOING TO TEACH PORTHOS HOW TO HANDLE A BOW





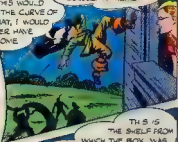
THIS ISN'T A CLASS WITH THE CATAPULT ON THE ARROWPLANE, G.A. BUT IT OUGHT TO DO!

IT WILL BE IF YOU'RE AIMED RIGHT! OKAY PORTHOS... LET 'ER RIP!

SLIM FIGURE SAILS THROUGH THE AIR TO BE FOLLOWED, ONE BY ONE, BY OTHERS NOT SO SLIM...

HELLO ARAMIS, STEP RIGHT IN AND MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

PARBLEU, MAD! KNOWN THIS WOULD SPOIL THE CURVE OF MY HAT, I WOULD NEVER HAVE COME



THIS IS THE SHELF FROM WHICH THE BOX WAS TAKEN... AND A LITTLE POWDER REVEALS A THUMB-PRINT

IT MUST BE THE THIEF'S!

UNDERSTAND NOT, MESSIEURS! THIS PROVES THE THIEF HAD A THUMB... BUT WHO HAS NOT?

NOW FINALLY...

NOM DUN NOM, NEVER, I THINK, HAVE THE HEAVENS LOOKED DOWN UPON SO HUGE A BIRD.

NOW WITHIN THE PALACE, THE GREEN ARROW SETS SWIFTLY TO WORK...

HERE'S THE JEWEL BOX FROM WHICH THE NECKLACE WAS STOLEN. IT'S MADE OF GOLD... STRANGE THAT IT WASN'T TAKEN, AND STRANGE, TOO, THAT IT WAS OPENED WITHOUT DAMAGE.

THE THIEF MUST HAVE HAD A KEY. LOOKS LIKE AN INSIDE JOB

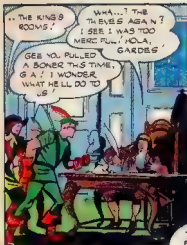
THE THIEF DIDN'T ESCAPE THROUGH A WINDOW, BECAUSE THERE ARE NO FOOTPRINTS IN THE GROUND BELOW. AND THAT CORRIDOR IS GUARDED...

HE MIGHT HAVE GOT AWAY THROUGH THAT DOOR!

SOUNDS PROBABLE, SPEEDY! AND I'M GOING TO SEE WHERE HE GOT TO!

WAIT! YOU CANNOT GO IN THERE! THOSE ARE...





...THE KING'S
ROOMS!

WHA...? THE
THIEVES AGAIN?
I SEE I WAS TOO
MERC'FUL! HOLA,
GARDES!

GEE YOU PULLED
A BOMBER THIS TIME,
G.A.! I WONDER
WHAT HE'LL DO TO
US!



YOU STOLE THE
NECKLACE, YOURSELF!

DOES THIS
MADMAN DARE
TO ACCUSE ME..?

IT DOESN'T MAKE
SENSE, G.A. WHY
SHOULD HE DO
SUCH A THING?



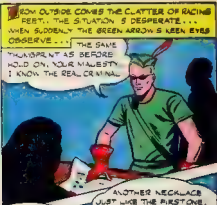
AT THIS CRUCIAL MOMENT IN HISTORY ENTER...
NOT ONLY THE GUARDS, BUT...HER MAJESTY,
THE QUEEN!

YOU SCOUNDREL...

BUT, DARLING...!

I'VE HEARD EVERYTHING AND NOW
I KNOW WHY YOU PROMISED ME
THAT SECOND STRING OF PEARLS. YOU
NEVER MEANT TO GIVE IT! YOU THIEF
YOU DOUBLE-
CROSSER,
YOU INDY-
GIVER

HMM...I DON'T
THINK WE'RE GO-
ING TO BE PUN-
ISHED AFTER ALL



FROM OUTSIDE COMES THE CLATTER OF RACING
FEET... THE SITUATION IS DESPERATE...
WHEN SUDDENLY THE GREEN ARROW'S KEEN EYES
OBSERVE...

THE SAME
TRANSPARENT AS BEFORE
HOLD ON, YOUR MAJESTY
I KNOW THE REAL CRIMINAL

REMEMBER YOUR
HISTORY, SPEEDY. AT THIS
TIME, FRANCE HAS A GREAT
EMPIRE. BUT THE TREASURY
IS EMPTY AND THE KING
PROMISED THE QUEEN...

ANOTHER NECKLACE
JUST LIKE THE FIRST ONE.
I GET IT! HE PINCHES THE
ONE, MEANING TO GIVE
IT TO THE QUEEN AS
THE SECOND ONE,
ON HER BIRTHDAY!

THE ROSIE IS MAD,
GUARDS! GUARDS!



LATER...

THE KING PERFORME
HAD TO LET US GO... BUT
HE MAY YET CHANGE HIS
MIND. SO WE HAD BETTER
BE TAKE US ELSEWHERE!
ADEU, MESS EURS!

SO LONG,
ARTHOS, PORTHOS,
ARABIS, WE'D
GO WITH YOU...

BUT WE'VE GOT TO
FIGURE A WAY TO GET
BACK TO OUR OWN

YES, SPEEDY...
MID PLEASURES AND PALACES
THOUGH WE MAY ROAM,
BE IT EVER SO DISTANT,
THERE'S NO TIME LIKE ONE'S
OWN

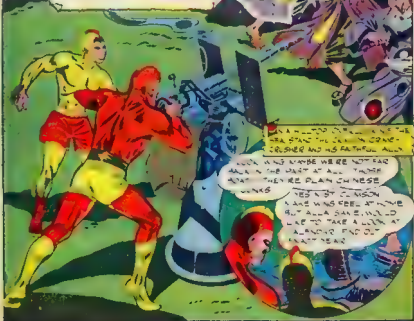


BACK BACK THEY SPEED
THROUGH THE BUT HOW FAR
A YEAR? A CENTURY? A LIFETIME
ITS HARD FOR THE COMMON
MEMBER AND WHO I BELIEVE
THE TRUTH FOR AT FIRST
EVERYTHING SEEMS UNALTERED
CLOTHES AND CUSTOMS ARE
THE SAME AND HUMAN BEINGS
HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH EVEN
TO THE GOOD ENEMY WHO
STOKES TREASONOUSLY AT
A PEACEFUL HOLDS-OUR
PEOPLE BUT THERE ARE
PREFERENCES... AND THE TWO
CONGRASSES MAKE GOOD USE
OF THEM AS THEY PLAY THEIR
ROLES IN THE TALE OF
AN-ENT...

"COURAGE IN CANTON."

COMMON AVENGER

and WING



1. A HUNTER OF THE ...
2. A HUNTER OF THE ...
3. A HUNTER OF THE ...

ALL THE KATIE WERE NOT FAR
FROM THE WATER ALL THE
TIME THEY'RE PLAIN CHINESE

THEY ARE ALL
A LITTLE BIT
A LITTLE BIT
A LITTLE BIT
A LITTLE BIT
A LITTLE BIT

YOU'RE RIGHT, WING!
CHINA DIDN'T CHANGE
MUCH FOR THOUSANDS
OF YEARS, SO WE
CAN'T DEPEND ON
JUST THE LOOKS
OF THINGS!

I SPEAK
TO THE MAN, ASK
HIM WHAT YEAR?

BUT AFTER A BRIEF DIALOGUE...

NOT SO GOOD, M'EST
CUNSON HE NOT KNOW
CALENDAR YEAR, BUT
HE SAY CITY IS KWANGSOW-
WHAT WE KNOW BY NAME
OF CANTON!

AND IT'S BEEN
KNOWN AS CANTON
FOR CENTURIES GLESS
WE'RE PRETTY FAR
BACK, AFTER ALL.
WING

WE'LL TRY ASKING THE
CHAP, WING... HE LOOKS
EDUCATED...

YES...
SOT ABSENT-MINDED
LOOK... MAYBE
PROFESSOR!

VERY SORRY...
EXCUSE,
PLEASE!

ABSENT-MINDED
IS RIGHT, WING!

LOOK
LIKE HE NEED
HELP MORE THAN
WE!

YOU LOSE VEGETABLES,
SIR!

AH, I AM GRATE-
FUL TO YOU BOTH!
IF I LOSE VEGETABLES,
MY WIFE LOSE TEMPER!
WIFE HAVE SMALL PATIENCE
WITH L HO, THE GREAT
INVENTOR!

AN INVENTOR...
HMM...

L HO, EXCUSE DIRECT
QUESTION, BUT WHAT
YEAR THIS?

WHAT YEAR? I CANNOT
SAY - I DO NOT KEEP
TRACK OF THE YEARS-
THERE IS ALWAYS PLENTY
OF TIME... COME! I WILL
SHOW YOU MY INVENTIONS!

SEEMS LIKE NOBODY
WILL TELL US WHAT
TIME IT IS! BUT MAYBE
THE INVENTIONS WILL
GIVE US A CLUE!

AT THE HOME OF L HO

YOU LAZY FORGETFUL,
GOOD-FOR-NOTHING
YOU ARE LATE!

HUSH, MY
LOTUS BLOO-
SOM-THOU
SEE! ST WE HAVE
COMPANY... COME
SIRS, I HAVE MUCH
TO SHOW YOU!

THIS IS A PEA-SHELLER...
WHEN DOES IT NOT?
IT SHELLS A POUND OF
PEAS AN HOUR...

HMM...
NO CLUE
THERE...
PEOPLE INVENTED
THINGS JUST AS
WHACKY IN THE
20TH CENTURY!

AND THIS IS MY
PERPETUAL MOTION
MACHINE -- JUST A
FEW MORE DETAILS,
AND IT WILL WORK!

SAME WITH
THIS ONE!



AH, YES, FAME AND FORTUNE
AWAIT ME... PROVIDED THE
BARBARIANS DO NOT INVADE
THE COUNTRY! THEY DON'T
LIKE INVENTIONS! BUT THE
GREAT WALL NOW BEING
BUILT WILL KEEP THEM OUT--

THE GREAT WALL?
NOW BEING BUILT?



WHY, THAT HAPPENED ABOUT 225 B.C.
AT LAST WE KNOW WHAT TIME WE'RE
IN! WE'VE BEEN THROWN BACK MORE
THAN TWO THOUSAND YEARS!

SO WHAT
DO WE DO? WAIT TWO THOU-
SAND YEARS TO CATCH
UP WITH OWN TIME?



SUDDENLY AS WING AND THE CRIMSON
AVENGER PONDER THE PERSONAL
PROBLEM, A GREAT CLAMOR ARISES...

HUH...?
SOUNDS LIKE
OWN TIME
RIGHT
NOW!

THE INVADERS I SPOKE
OF ONLY A MOMENT
AGO! THEY ARE HERE
LOOTING AND
DESTROYING!

COME ON,
WING! OUR
OWN TIME OR
THIS TIME--THERE'S
ALWAYS PLENTY OF
ACTION FOR
US!



JAPANESE! WE
MIGHT HAVE
KNOWN IT!

HAN! ANCIENT
ENEMY OF WING'S
PEOPLE! WE
TEACH LESSON!



IMAGINE GLASS CAPSULE
SHATTERS AGAINST THE GROUND
AND A CRIMSON CLOUD BILLOWS
UPWARD...

FRE, FRE!
HELP! EARN!

YOU TOO MUCH
IN HURRY TO
COMPLAIN. NOTHING
HURT YOU YET

OKAY CAN
COMPLAIN NOW!

AAAAH!!



ANOTHER JAP
TAKE NAD

GGH!

SHAKE HANDS CHUM.
IF IT WASN'T TWO
THOUSAND YEARS AGO
THIS TRICK MIGHT
NOT WORK

NOW WHEN WE BE
DONE FOR I DON'T
ACT FAST



???



HUH? WHAT HAPPEN?

I JUST SHOWED THESE
JAPS A LITTLE JIU JITSU.
WINS A FEW CENTURIES BEFORE
THEY'RE DUE TO LEARN ABOUT
IT

BUT AS THE CRIMSON
CLOUD DIETS AWAY...

CAN TWO LY-
ARMED MEN DEFEAT THE
M KADOS ARMY "FORWARD"
TAKE THEM PRISONER, SO
THAT WE MAY PUNISH
THEM FOR THEIR MAD-
WENGE

BETTER
GET ANOTHER
CAPSULE
QUICK,
ALST,
CLINSON!

SAVE TRICK MIGHT
NOT WORK TWICE .. I
GOING TO TRY SOMETHING
ELSE



THE MINDOS KINGS PLUNGE FORWARD, A SCARLET BEAM OF LIGHT INTO THEIR EYES...

MORE FIRE HE'S A NAGCAN LET US RUN BEFORE HE BURNS US ALIVE



THIS WAY GIVES ME AN IDEA, WING

HAYSTACK GOTT PLACE TO HIDE FOR NEEDLES



BUT, AS THE PANIC IS ABOUT TO SPREAD...

FOOLS, IT'S COLD FIRE IT DOES NOT BURN BE-EE HAY

HAH... MY BLUFF DIDN'T QUITE WORK! GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE!

BETTER THINK WITH FEET... RUN FAST



SECONDS LATER

THEY NOT READ OF 'COLD' FIRE NIST CLACKSON

NATURALLY! IT DON'T BURN THEN BEFORE, DID IT?

DO NOT FEAR, MEN IT'S ALL COLD FIRE



THEY DON'T REALIZE THAT THIS TIME IT WAS A REAL FIRE SET WITH A MATCH

WOW! FIRE HOT!

HE'S A REAL NAGCAN FIRST HE MADE COLD FIRE, AND THEN HE MADE THE COLD BECOME HOT

LIVE AND LEARN, CHUM



THE MAGICIAN STRIKES
HEAVY BLOWS BUT
WE WHO SERVE THE
M-KADO HAVE HARD SKULLS



AND NOW
FOR HIS
FRIEND!



AAAA..

LATER, IN A SMALL
BAMBOO HUT...

YOU PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU
MAKE MAGIC M-KADO'S
SOLDERS USE TO USE



SURE,
I'LL TELL YOU.

THIS IS REALLY VERY
SIMPLE, I JUST LIFT
THIS UP...

YES, YES, GO ON



AND SAY THE MAGIC
WORD, BOP.

AAAA

AND LIGHTS
GO OUT



THE COMRADES CRASH THROUGH THE
SPLINTERING WALLS OF THE FLimsY HUT...

GRAB ONE OF THOSE BAMBOO
POLES WING... IT'LL COME
IN HANDY!

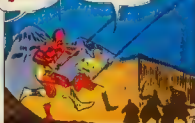
I TAKE
YOUR WORD,
MIST'ER NICKSON



HOPE YOU'RE IN GOOD
TRAINING, WING

WING IN GOOD
TRAINING... BUT NO
WANT TO BE TOO MUCH
ON EDGE

STOP!





TWO LITTLE FIGURES SOAR
SWIFTLY OVER THE START-
LED SOLDIERS AND OVER
THE WALL...

NICE POLE-
VAULTING,
WING!

BREAK
RECORD-
TOO BAD THIS
NOT SPORTING
EVENT!



RESENTLY...

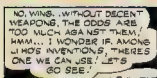
THE CHINESE NEED
AN ARMY, WING!

CHINESE HAVE
ARMY! LOOK



THOSE MEN? BUT
THEY'RE NOT SOLDIERS!
MOST OF THEM ARE OLD,
OR UNUSUED TO FIGHTING!
AND THEY HAVE NO REAL
WEAPONS! IT'LL BE MURDER!

CHINESE PEACEFUL PEOPLE,
BUT THEY CAN FIGHT EVEN
WITHOUT WEAPONS!



NO, WING... WITHOUT DECENT
WEAPONS, THE ODDS ARE
TOO MUCH AGAINST THEM!
HMM... I WONDER IF, AMONG
LI HO'S INVENTIONS, THERES
ONE WE CAN USE! LET'S
GO SEE!

NO INVENTION
SHELL PEAS, NOT JAPS!



LI HO'S...

THIS IS BRO TRAP...
MAYBE USE TO TRAP
JAPANESE?

AFRAID NOT...
LET'S SEE
SOMETHING ELSE



THIS MAKE HAIR
NICE ON THE HEAD...

A COMB?
THAT'LL HARDLY
DO... WHAT
NEXT?

WE
WASTE
TOO MUCH
TIME -
HURRY
MIST
CLOUD
SON



BUT FINALLY...

I THINK WE'VE GOT
SOMETHING, WING!
FIRST WE'LL NEED
SOME HOLLOWED-OUT
BAMBOO POLES!

YOU MEAN LI HO IN-
VENT SOMETHING
PRACTICAL?

LI HO
GREAT
INVENTOR,
YES?

HE DONT EXACTLY WENT
THS... BUT HE HELPED
NOW TO GET SOME SMALL
BOYS TO COLLECTING STONES
FOR A E

STONES! NOT CLAY!
NOW YOU SOUND LIKE
WHACK NVENTOR



BUT THE CRIMSON AVENGER GOES CALMLY
AHEAD WITH HIS MYSTERIOUS PLANE... AND
SOME TIME LATER...

AM WE NOW
GONE MASSACRE

NOT IF WE CAN
HELP IT HERES OUR
CHANCE TO USE LI HO'S
INVENTION READY
AM



POW!

PANG! PANG!

"THUNDER
AND STONES
FROM THE HEAVENS"

"THE SUN IS
ANGRY WITH US"



WELL WHO THESE HONE MADE
GUNS SHOT STONES INSTEAD
OF BULLETS, BUT THEY WON
THE BATTLE

YES, BUT
WHAT DID LI HO
HAVE GOT TO
DO WITH IT?

THEY ARE AFRAID OF
US, AFTER THEM



PLENTY DONT YOU REMEMBER
THAT HISTORY TELLS US 'CHINESE
INVENTED GUNPOWDER? THAT
CHINESE WAS LI HO' HE INTEND
ED IT FOR FIREWORKS.. BUT I
FOUND ANOTHER USE FOR

LI HO
GREAT
MAN
WHO VERY
FOOL PEOPLE WE
CHINESE



CHIEF YOU MAY BE IN NO BUT YOU ARE
YOU AND THE CRIMSON AVENGER GOING
TO GET BACK TO YOUR OWN TIME?

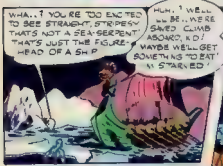
NO ON TOP OF THAT, LOOMING OUT OF THE MIST, THE COMRADES SUDDENLY BEHOLD...



A SEA-SERPENT THIS LOOKS LIKE THE END, KID BUT NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT STRIPESY DIDN'T GO DOWN FIGHTING!

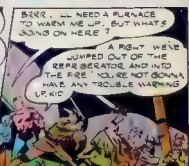


I'LL KEEP HIM BUSY 'TIL YOU TRY TO SAVE YOURSELF, KID!



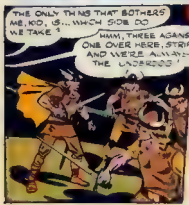
WHA...? YOU'RE TOO EXCITED TO SEE STRAIGHT, STRIPESY THAT'S NOT A SEA-SERPENT! THAT'S JUST THE FIGURE-HEAD OF A SHIP!

HUM...? WELL... WE'LL BE... WE'RE SAVED! CLIMB ABOARD, KID! MAYBE WE'LL GET SOMETHING TO EAT 'N' STARVED!



BRRR... I'LL NEED A FURNACE TO WARM ME UP. BUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

A RIGHT WE'VE JUMPED OUT OF THE REFRIGERATOR AND INTO THE FIRE! YOU'RE NOT GONNA HAVE ANY TROUBLE WARMING UP, KID!



THE ONLY THING THAT BOTHERS ME, KID, IS... WHICH SIDE DO WE TAKE?

MMM, THREE AGAINST ONE OVER HERE, STRIPESY. AND WE'RE ALWAYS FOR THE UNDERDOGS!



THE PARTNERS ARE PER-SWING COOLLY INTO ACTION.

ANY CE TODAY MISTER?

OOOF!

NOT SO FAST, KID!



LET ME HANDLE SOME OF THE BUCKHEADS!

WHENCE COME THESE STRANGERS?

I'LL SHOW 'EM A LITTLE BULL-FIGHTING THEN!

I KNOW NOT, BUT I KNOW WHERE THEY WILL GO... TO THE FISHG!

WATCH THEM! THEY CAN AT US LIKE A HOT BULL!

Oww!

THE COUP DE GRACE, AS WE SAY IN FRENCH - IN OTHER WORDS, THE ENOUGH TOUCH

TAKE A DRAP COOL OFF

NEED ANY MORE HELP MISTER?

MERC NEEDS NO AD TO DISPOSE OF MY NEERS YET MY SON AND I WOULD NOT WITHOLD THINGS FOR THY ASSISTANCE

THIS IS MY SON, LEE. I PROMISED HIM IF HE FOUGHT WELL, I WOULD GIVE HIM A SHIP OF HIS OWN!

LOOKS AS IF HE'S EARNED IT!

LL SETTLE FOR A ROSTERHOUSE STEAK

I HAD A MEAL FOR
YEARS .. CENTURES
AND AFTER THAT ICE WATER,
AND THAT FIGHT, I AM
HUNGRY

TIGHTEN
YOUR BELT,
STRIPSY.

YOU WILL SHARE
WHAT LITTLE WE HAVE.
THE MUTINEERS WANTED
MORE THAN THEIR SHARE

THIS HAS BEEN SO BAD A
YEAR THAT OUR WHOLE PEOPLE
LACK FOOD. WE MUST SEEK
OUT A NEW LAND, WHERE THE
EARTH IS RICH, THE SUN STRONG...

LEIF IS ALWAYS DREAMING OF
NEW VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

YOU, TOO, MADE MANY VOYAGES
IN YOUR YOUTH, FATHER. I SHALL
FIND FOOD FOR EVERY ONE. AND
IF THESE VALANT STRANGERS
WISH TO COME WITH ME...

COUNT
US IN, PAUL

SURE WE GOTTA DO
SOMETHING YET.
WE GET BACK TO
945.

WHERE DO
WE GO FROM
HERE, K.D?

WE STAY PUT,
STRIPSY. I'LL
BORROW A TRICK
FROM THE ESK MOES...
AND WHAT'S MORE,
MAYBE YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO GET A
SQUARE MEAL.

MOMENTS LATER...

HOW'S THIS FOR
A STARTER?

I AM NOT CRAZY
ABOUT FISH,
K.D, BUT RIGHT
NOW... HUH,
WHAT'S THAT?

OHWWW... WE'RE NOT THE
ONLY ONES WHO ARE HUNGRY.
POLAR BEARS

AND MAYBE
THEY'RE TIRED
OF A FISH DIET,
TOO! IT'S BACK
TO THE SHIP FOR
US

BUT UNEXPECTEDLY...

HEY, OUR WAYS
CUT OFF, WHAT
A TIME FOR THE
ICE TO DECIDE,
TO BREAK UP.

WE'LL HAVE TO
MAKE A DETOUR
AROUND THE FISSURE,
BUT THAT MEANS THOSE
BEARS MAY CATCH US.
WAIT FOR ME BOYS, WE
GOT AN IDEA!

SORRY TO BREAK UP YOUR
HAPPY FAMILY LIFE, PALS...
BUT I'VE GOT A FAMILY TOO!

CRACK!

IS THE GREAT WHITE BEARS LUMBER
FORWARD THREATENINGLY...

HEY, KID, THERE IS NO TIME
TO BE PICKIN' UP PETS!

APPRKK!

COME ON, YOU'VE
GOT TO CHASE ME
IF YOU WANT YOUR
BABY WALRUS
BACK.

EEEEK

YOU'LL BE GLAD
I BROUGHT HIM,
STRIPESY!

HUM...? THEY'RE
FIGHTIN' WITH
EACH OTHER!

...AND RETIRE TO THE
SIDELINES!

WOW! LOOK AT THEM
WALRUSES.

TIME TO BOW
OUT, I'LL PUT
LITTLE WALLE
DOWN HERE.

AND I
THOUGHT TO WIN UNDY-
ING GLORY IN A BATTLE
AGAINST GREAT ODDS!

NEVER HAD THE GLORY
YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY
OF CHANCES FOR THAT
WE'VE GOT TO GET
BACK TO THE SHIP



AND SO AFTER A QUICK
RETREAT...

WITH NO OTHER
WALLS ARE
WALLS NOW EVERY
BODY CAN BE
HAPPY



EVERYBODY EXCEPT
THOSE POLAR BEARS
THEY'VE A HEATING
AND COOLING ON A
KISS

NOW AS THE SHIP SAILS ON AGAIN,
THE WIND CHANGES. AND SOUTH-
WARD THE VIKES GO OVER
THE SHINING AREA!

THIS AIN'T SO HOT NOW WHEN
YOU DEPEND ON SAILS, YOU GOTTA
GO WHERE THE WIND TELLS YOU

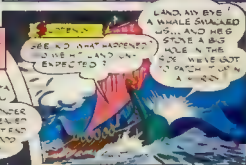


I WONDER
WHERE WERE HEAVEN
FOR? I WOULD
HAVE FOUND

ATTENTION

SEE NO WHAT HAPPENED?
DID WE? LAND UN-
EXPECTED?

LAND, MY BYE!
A WHALE SWALLOWED
US... AND HE'S
STOLE A BIG
HOLE IN THE
SIDE. WE'VE GOT
TO PATCH IT UP IN
A MINUTE



HE WILL LEAD
US TO THE
EDGE OF THE
WORLD TO FALL OVER
AND BE DEVoured BY
THE MONSTERS BELOW!
WE MUST TURN BACK

I HAVE NO BEAR FOR MY
SELF, BUT WITHOUT US TO
PROVIDE FOOD OUR WIVES
AND CHILDREN WILL
STARVE. WE MUST TURN
BACK

WHEN WE STOPPED THAT JUST
IN TIME. NOW WE GOTTA
START BALIN' THE WATER
OUT. NO TTA
TRIP

WHAT CAN WE
EXPECT WHEN A
BOY COMMANDS
US?

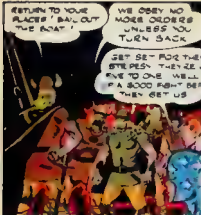
YES WE MUST TURN BACK
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

FORGETS. I
NEVER THOUGHT
I'D SEE VIKES
WITH BEARS

NOT UNTIL I
GIVE THE ORDERS

HERE WE GO
CAN MORE
HELP

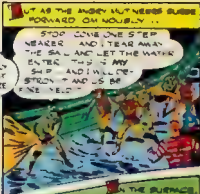




RETURN TO YOUR PLACES! BAL OUT THE BOAT!

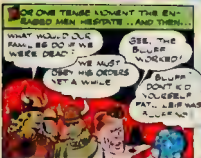
WE OBEY NO MORE ORDERS UNLESS YOU TURN BACK

GET SET FOR THEN STEPPEN THEY'RE ONLY FIVE TO ONE WE'LL PUT A GOOD FIGHT BEFORE THEY GET US



PUT AS THE ANGRY BUT NERVOUS SQUEE FORWARD ON NOISILY ..

STOP COME ONE STEP NEARER AND I TEAR AWAY THE SAIL AND LET THE WATER ENTER THIS IS MY SHIP AND I WILL PROTECT IT AND US BE FINE YET



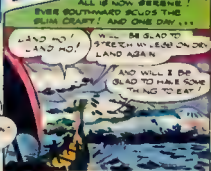
FOR ONE TENSE MOMENT THE ENRAGED MEN HESITATE .. AND THEN...

WHAT WOULD OUR FAMILIES DO IF WE WERE DEAD?

WE MUST OBEY HIS ORDERS SET A WHILE

SEE, THE BLUFF WORKED!

BLUFF DON'T KID YOURSELF PAT.. WE'VE WON A LITTLE



ON THE SURFACE, ALL IS NOW SERENE! EVER SOUTHWARD SCUDS THE SLIM CRAFT! AND ONE DAY ...

LAND NO! LAND NO!

WILL BE GLAD TO STRETCH MY LEGS ON DRY LAND AGAIN

AND WILL I BE GLAD TO HAVE SOME THING TO EAT!



THE SHIP CASTS ANCHOR, AND SHORTLY...

THESE GRAPES TASTE GOOD, BUT THEY DON'T FILL YOUR STOMACH WHEN YOU HAD A GOOD STEAK

MAYBE THAT CAN BE ARRANGED, STEPPEN GOT YOUR RATION BOOK READY!

HMM A FAR LAND!



ANY THING GROW FROM THE GROUND... AND THERE'S GAME PERHAPS WE CAN FOUND A COLONY HERE

KD, I GOT A FUNNY FEELING

LIKE I BEEN
HERE BEFORE!
STRANGE, AIN'T
T?

AND NOW! THIS MUST
BE SOME BIG ISLAND
WE HAPPEN TO HAVE
RUN INTO... I DON'T SEE
HOW YOU COULD POSSIBLY
HAVE BEEN ON IT!

ALL THE SAME, I
RATHER LIKE IT HERE MYSELF!
EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE NO
SIGNS OF ANY OTHER PEOPLE!
WISH I COULD STAY!



BUT THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF FEEDING
THE STARVING COMES BEFORE PERSONAL
PLEASURES. SOON, LADEN TO THE GUN-
WALS WITH FOOD, THE SHIP SETS
SAIL AGAIN...

KID, I CAN'T GET T OUTTA MY MIND
THAT SOMEHOW I KNOW THAT PLACE!
I WONDER WHAT IT'S
CALLED!

DON'T BE ABSURD,
STRIPEY! IT'S JUST
AN ISLAND IN THE OCEAN!
IT HASN'T GOT A
NAME!



THERE ARE SO MANY
VINES, I HAVE NAMED
IT VINELAND! WE CAN
SEND A COLONY...

PERHAPS...
BUT THE CLIMATE
APPEARS TOO WARM!
I DO NOT SEE HOW IT
CAN BREED A HARDY
RACE!

STRIPEY!
DID YOU HEAR
THAT?

I JUST REALIZED... LEIF
IS ERIC'S SON... HE'S
LEIF ERICSSON! AND
THE COUNTRY HE DIS-
COVERED WAS
VINELAND, WHICH
WE KNOW BY AN-
OTHER NAME...

WAIT A
MINUTE, KID...
YOU MEAN...

LEIF, YOU HAVE
RETURNED AT
LAST!

WITH MUCH FOOD!
FATHER, I HAVE DIS-
COVERED A WONDER-
FUL COUNTRY!

SEE, KID?
HE LIKED IT, TOO!
EVERYBODY LIKES IT!



YES... WE DISCOVERED
AMERICA!

UH...
GOSH!



SOME DISCOVERY!... BUT
THE STAR-SPANGLER KID
AND STRIPEY ARE STILL
PRISONERS OF THE PAST!
WHAT ARE THE CHANG-
ES OF DISCOVERING THEIR
WAY BACK TO THE
AMERICA OF 1943?





THERE'S A DIFFERENT TASTE TO THE
OLD SALT, AN UNPLEASANT THAT PACES
THAT PUNCHES THROUGH THE
VOLCANO, WHEN HE BEING A NEW
LIFE IN A NEW DEAD AND TERRIBLE
HAVE A GOOD DAY AND NIGHT IN
THIS AND THAT DAY, BUT THEN OF MODERN
CROSSING AGAIN TO THE ANTI-ANTHROP
GETAWAY METHOD, AND WHEN THE
WESTERN WANTS TO GO AND WEAVING
FOR THEIR PLANS HE FINDS QUOTE,
DEAD OF GRATITUDE IN THE METHOD, &
WHERE HE ENCOUNTERS...

"FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN!"



TWENTY CENTURIES AGO, THAT
WARRIOR OF THE WIDE OPEN
SPACES, THE VIGILANTE
STROLLS DOWN ROME'S FA-
MOUS APPIAN WAY...

KYOOOLIN' COYOTES, THE
DUMMY SURE PUT ONE
OVER ON ME THAT TIME.
HERE I AM, A STRANGER
IN ROME...



I HATE TO WASTE TIME
AT THESE SOCIAL AFFAIRS,
ANTONY.

IT SN'T WAST-
ING TIME, CAESAR!
CRASSUS HAS SO
MUCH MONEY, HE
DOESN'T KNOW WHAT
TO DO WITH IT. HE
CAN HELP YOUR
PLANS.

JUMPIN' GILA
MONSTERS!!
KNOW THOSE
BOYS.. THEY'RE
JULIUS CAESAR
AND MARC
ANTONY!



ROCKY, THE SCHEME'S
PERFECT! IT CAN'T
POSSIBLY MISS
UP!

AND I KNOW
THEM TOO!
MUST HAVE SEEN
THEIR STATUES
SOMEPLACE...



NO! I WASN'T THEIR
STATUES, IT WAS THEM!
IN MY OWN TIME! BUT BY
THE GREAT HORNED TOAD, I
DON'T SEE HOW... T AIN'T
POSSIBLE!



BUT IT IS POSSIBLE,
VIGILANTE TO EXPLAIN
THIS APPARENTLY
MIRACULOUS MEETING
WITH OLD "FRIENDS"
OF YOURS, ALL WE
NEED DO IS SKIP A
SCORE OF CENTURIES
TO FIND OURSELVES ONCE
MORE IN 1943, IN THE
DUMMY'S CUNNINGLY
CONCEALED RETREAT...

BOYS, THE BOSS IS
SMART, BUT ALL THE
SAME, HE'S MISSED
A BET.

SAYS,
YOU



YES, SAYS ME. ONCE
DERE LIVED A GUY CALLED
CRASSUS. HE HAD SO
MUCH DOLSH, HE'D MAKE
A MILL ONAIRE LOOK LIKE
A PIKER! SUPPOSE WE
USE DIS MACHINE TO SEND
US BACK IN TIME...



I GET IT, ROCKY! WE
ROB CRASSUS, AND DIS
MACHINE HELPS US
MAKE A GETAWAY. SEE,
WHY DONT I TINK OF
OF DAT



THUS, A LITTLE LATER, WE FIND...

I DON'T LIKE NIGHTGOWNS.. BUT
I GUESS IN ROME, YOU GOTTA
DO LIKE DA ROMANS!

REMEMBER NOW, PANNY,
WE'RE COUNTIN' ON YOU TO
KEEP AN EYE ON US AND
BRING US BACK AT DA RIGHT
TIME!

OKAY BUT YOU
BE SURE YOU DON'T
FORGET NOTHIN'!
BRING BACK EV-
ERYTHING DIS,
CRASSUS GOT.



Are You "PRE-FLIGHT" MATE



BOYS AND GIRLS!

CHECK YOUR PHYSICAL FITNESS
AGAINST THIS NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL
OBSTACLE COURSE. MEN IN PRE-
FLIGHT TRAINING HAVE TO DO ALL THIS

— RACE UP 45 DEGREE INCLINES, THROUGH TUNNEL-MAZES,
ACROSS BUNKERS AND
WALLS, THRU BRUSH AND



AMERICA NEED TODAY.

SO HELP GET
YOURSELF IN CHAMPIONSHIP
FORM WITH JACK ARMSTRONG'S

- 1 GET PLENTY OF FRESH AIR
 - 2 KEEP CLEAN. USE LOTS OF SOAP
 - 3 EAT THREE SQUARE MEALS A DAY
- A GENUINE ATHLETE'S
AND F
"BREAKFAST"
YOU'LL



"I am indeed sorry, Private Jones. Rules won't permit me to
serve your Wheaties in bed."

Maybe you can't have them in bed, but you can have all the Wheaties
you use. These good, whole wheat flakes are plentiful—and good,
morning, noon, or night.

Product of GENE

ERIAL?



ND OVER WATER JUMPS.

EDS CHAMPIONS

TRAINING RULES. HERE'S THE FAMOUS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOU TO FOLLOW EVERY DAY.

SH AIR, SLEEP AND EXERCISE.

OTS OF SOAP AND WATER.

MEALS A DAY. START WITH E'S TRAINING DISH, MILK AND FRUIT AND WHEATIES, "BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS" YOU'LL LIKE WHEATIES!



"Wise guy" Fergite his Wheaties this mornin'!"

GET GOING! WITH WHEATIES TOMORROW MORNING. A REAL ATHLETE'S TRAINING DISH TO HELP YOU START THE DAY THE CHAMPION WAY. BIG TOASTED FLAKES OF GOOD WHOLE WHEAT.. THAT'S WHEATIES. LOTS OF "UP-AND-AT-EM" NOURISHMENT FOR YOU, TOO, IN MILK AND FRUIT AND WHEATIES, "BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS." GET WHEATIES TODAY!

HEY, LOOK! SPECIAL OFFER GOOD ONLY WHILE OUR LIMITED SUPPLIES LAST. GET HANDSOME MECHANICAL PENCIL, SHAPED LIKE BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL BAT—STREAMLINE CURVED TO FIT YOUR FINGERS. SEND 10¢ AND ONE WHEATIES BOX TOP TO GENERAL MILLS, INC., DEPT. 252 MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Breakfast of **Champions**™
WITH MILK AND FRUIT

GENERAL MILLS, INC.

Wheaties and "Breakfast of Champions" are registered trade marks of GENERAL MILLS, INC.

THE TOUCH OF A SWITCH, AND ANCIENT ROME, WHICH HAS SO MUCH VILLAINY OF ITS OWN, IS THE RICHER BY TWO MODERN ROGUES. NO WONDER THE VILANTE WONDERS.

POSSIBLE OR NOT, THEY'RE HERE AND WHEREVER THEY ARE, THERE'S DIRTY WORK I'LL KEEP MY EYE ON THESE TWO VARNENTS...

SAY, K.O., WHERE DOES CRASSUS HANG OUT?

YOU GUYS MUST BE DUMB NOT TO KNOW THAT EVERYBODY IN ROME KNOWS HE LIVES DOWN THERE

THEY'RE LOOKIN' FOR CRASSUS, TOO! AND THE MAN'S RICH... HMMMM... MIGHTY INTERESTING!

PRESENTLY THE TWO THIEVES ARRIVE AT A SCENE OF UNPARALLELED LUXURY...

HELLO, CRASSUS. HOW ARE THINGS? (WAS DOES PARTY A CINCH TO CRASH?)

I AM IN GOOD HEALTH, THANKS TO JUPITER (I HAVE SO MANY FRIENDS I CANNOT EVEN REMEMBER THESE FACES BUT I MUST BE HOSPITABLE.) JOIN OUR FEASTER...

SHIFTUS IS HIS NAME. I'M ROCKUS.

HERE SHIFTUS AND ROCKUS ARE SOME TOKENS OF THE ESTEEM WITH WHICH I REGARD MY FRIENDS SLAVE... BRING MORE GOLD FROM MY TREASURY

HUH... YOU MEAN YOU GOT SO MUCH, YOU JUST GIVE IT AWAY LIKE DIS...? GEE, GOSH

I NEVER THOUGHT A GUY COULD HAVE SO MUCH DOUGH...

DON'T I TELL YA? WHAT A CINCH DIS IS GONNA BE. ALL WE GOTTA DO IS FOLLOW DA SLAVE TO DA TREASURY, THEN WAIT FOR HIM TO GO AWAY...

SNAP OUT OF IT, CHUM. TANKS A LOT, CRASSUS



MOMENTS LATER...
LOOK, ROCKY,
ALL DA GOLD
IN DA WORLD

I FEEL LIKE
CRYIN' SHAFY.
DRESS SO MUCH,
WE CAN'T COME
CLOSE TO TAKIN'
T ALL WD US



BUT WE'LL DO OUR
BEST, AND WHEN
WE'LL COME BACK
LATER FOR MORE

LOOK, CAESAR, THIEVES
PILFERING CRASSUS'
TREASURY WE MUST
CALL THE SLAVES

SINCE WHEN DOES
CAESAR RELY UPON
OTHERS TO DO WHAT HE
WOULD DO HIMSELF? I
WILL TAKE CARE OF
THESE ROBBER MYSELF

STAY BACK,
SAPS, OR I'LL LET
YOU HAVE IT!

SO THOSE
THINGS IN
THEIR HANDS ARE
WEAPONS? LET US SEE
ANYON, HOW THEY COMPARE
WITH OUR ROMAN
SWORDS



BANG!

DROP THAT SNA
RATTLES

BANG!



THE VIGILANTE!

EVEN IN ROME WE CAN'T
GET AWAY FROM THAT GUY!

YUH DIDNT ROAM FAR
ENOUGH, S DEW NOBBS

NOBY...
BUT A PLINY
THING MY
SWORD KNOCKED
OUT OF HIS
HAND

MEANWHILE A PUZZLED
MILITARY EXPERT INSPECTS
A NEW SECRET WEAPON

NO THEN, CASUALLY, CAESAR
TOSSES AWAY WHAT WOULD HAVE
MADE HIM SOLE MASTER OF THE
WORLD!

HERE THEY TAKE
YOUR TOY.

HOWLIN'
COYOTES...
DON'T DO THAT,
CAESAR!

HUH...? HE
MUST BE
WHACKY!



BUT I'M NOT! WE
GOTTA GET OUTTA
HERE! COME ON,
SHIFTY!



YES, CAESAR!

THIS MAN CAME
TO OUR A.D. ANTONY.
REWARD HIM.

HUH...? I DON'T
WANT NO
REWARD!

FORTUNE FAVORS THE ROGUES!
SECONDS LATER...

THEY WILL ESCAPE. 'TIS NO USE
HELP, SLAVES...! ANTONY BY
NOW THEY HAVE
MINGLED WITH THE
OTHER GUESTS! AND
THERE ARE SO MANY.
WE SHALL NEVER
FIND THEM.

THE
VARMINTS
ALMOST
BLINDED ME
WITH THAT
GOLD!



THE GREAT CAESAR
HAS SPOKEN... WHAT
YOU DESIRE MATTERS
NOT HERE IS YOUR
GOLD! AND NOW,
BECAUSE YOU HAVE
SEEN CAESAR
FALL...

SHUCKS,
PARTNER
ANYBODY
CAN GET
KNOCKED OFF
HIS FEET! IT
DON'T MEAN
NOTHING!

THE DIGNITY OF A
MAN WHO WILL
YET BE KING IS NOT
TO BE TRIFLED WITH.
SEIZE HIM,
SLAVES.

WHA..?



THE THE BAG OF GOLD
CAESAR GAVE HIM TO
FEET AND THREW HIM TO
THE LAURELS HE WON'T
BE ABLE TO SAY THEN THAT
HE SAW THE GREAT JULIUS
LOSE HIS DIGNITY!

WHY, YOU
MANGY COYOTE,
'LL...



BUT TAKEN UTTERLY BY SURPRISE,
THE WEARY STRUGGLERS ARE
IN VAN SHORTLY...

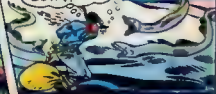
BY JUPITER, I ALMOST
PITY THE POOR
WRETCH!

THE
LAMPREYS WILL
LEAVE A LITTLE OF
MY... BUT WE MUST
OBEY ORDERS



AND NOW THE WESTERN WADDY FACES A TERRIFYING
DEATH! THE LAMPREYS, FEROCEOUS SHARP-
TOOTHED EEL-LIKE CREATURES, STREAK TOWARD
HIS HELPLESS BODY...

I WISH THE CROOKS HAD
THIS GOLD INSTEAD OF ME!
IT'S WEIGHING ME
DOWN!



BUT IT IS OF SOME USE
USH... IF I CAN GET MY
HANDS FREE BEFORE MY
LUNGS BURST



UP WHILE THE WARRIOR
OF THE PLAINS FIGHTS
FOR LIFE...

CRASSUS HAS MORE GOLD
THAN HE'LL EVER NEED...
AND CAESAR, EVER TOO
GENEROUS, LACKS MONEY
TO PAY HIS SOLDIERS' BUT
HE NEVER WORRIES... I
HAVE TO DO THE WORRY-
ING FOR BOTH OF
US



IF ONLY CRASSUS WERE
GENEROUS... AH, I HAVE IT!
HE WILL BE... WITHOUT
KNOWING IT!



AND NOW AS THE MERRYMAKING
GOES ON...

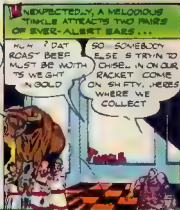
CRASSUS, YOU ARE TOO
GREAT A MAN TO BE
BOtherED WITH MY
PETTY TROUBLES! BUT
IF YOU WILL ONLY LISTEN...

THIS IS A FEAST,
AND EVERY ONE
SHOULD FORGET
TROUBLES! BUT AS
YOU SAY, I AM A
GREAT MAN, AND...
WE'LL GO AHEAD

YOU HAVE MORE FOOD
THAN YOU KNOW WHAT
TO DO WITH... AND AT
HOME, MY SLAVES STARVE!
IF YOU WOULD LET
ME HAVE A ROAST
STUFFED BULL OR
TWO

TAKE HALF A
DOZEN! STUFF
IT WITH ALL
THE GOOD
THINGS YOU
WISH AND
DON'T BOTHER ME
ABOUT SUCH TRIFLES
AGAIN





WITH THE RESULT THAT PRESENTLY...

GUESS THEN GUYS AREN'T USED TO PUTTING UP A FIGHT. THEY SCRAMMED, AND... HUH...! YOU GUYS AGAIN?

YES, RASCAL AND THIS TIME YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE US!



BY JUPITER THAT TOY HAS DISARMED MARC ANTHONY. PERHAPS AN LEGIONAIRES CAN USE THE

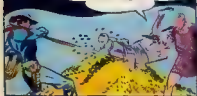
ROCKY LOOK...THE VIG LANTE AS AN

A-HEARIN' TO GO. SET SET FOR A FEW LUNGS, ROCKY!



THIS OUGHTTA REMIND YOU OF PRISON. CRUSHED ROCKY!

STILL A WISE GUY, HUH VIG LANTE? A BULLET'LL FIX YOU!



...SUDDENLY...

YOUR OWN MEN. CAESAR THEN MUST HAVE HEARD THE NOISE NOW ARE THE ROGUES LOST NEED YOUR LEGIONAIRES WALKING THEM ALL!

WE BETTER STICK TOGETHER, VIG LANTE WE GOTTA HOLD OURSELVES OFF UNTIL DANNY CAN GET US BACK TO OUR OWN TIME WHADDOYA SAY?

THAT'S ABE... BUT M WITH YOU, ROCKY!



NOT FAR IN THE FUTURE, DANNY HAS TROUBLES OF HIS OWN! AT A POLICE STATION...

WELL, WELL! SO DANNY'S HANDS BEEN IN OTHER PEOPLE'S POCKETS AGAIN!

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT I TELL YA AND YA GOTTA LET ME GO...MY PALS ARE DEPENDIN' ON ME. THEY NEED ME!

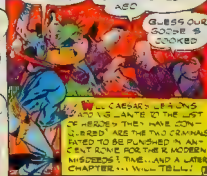
TOO BAD, DANNY... THE WARDEN NEEDS YOU MORE



WONDER WHEN THIS PAL OF YOURS IS GONNA BRING US BACK

SOMETHIN MUST HAVE GONE WRONG! DANNY SHOULD HAVE GRABBED US LONG AGO

GUESS OUR GOOSE IS COOKED



WELL CAESAR'S LEGIONS AND VIG LANTE TO THE LEFT OF HERDIE THEY HAVE CON-QUERED ARE THE TWO CRIMINALS FATED TO BE PUNISHED IN AN-CEPT ROME FOR THE R MODERN MISDEEDS? TIME...AND A LATER CHAPTER... WILL TELL! (E

FOR ONCE IN
HUMAN HISTORY
A MAN AS GREAT AS
LEONARDO DA VINCI
BORN ARTIST FIRST,
ENGINEER SECOND, HE CAN
DO WELL EVERYTHING WORTH DOING
EXCEPT COPE WITH THE BRUTAL
"TILED CRIMINAL WHO HATES HIM FOR
HIS VICTORIES. BUT WHAT THE GREAT
SAGE CANNOT ACHIEVE THE STRONG
KNIGHT CAN. AND THE CHAMPION
OF CHIVALRY FINDS AN UNEXPECTED
REWARD FOR HIS VALOR
AS HE LEARNS ABOUT...

"The Legend of Leonardo!"

THEY FIGHT LIKE MAD
MEN. THE KNIGHT THE WINNING
KNIGHT AND HIS WINGED STEED
IN THEMSELVES SCARING
BENEATH AN AZURE SKY...

"I'VE NO FEAR VICTORY!
IN MY AGE OR CLIME,
THOU'ST WILL JUST
FIGHT"



AND A STRANGE SIGHT MEETS
THEIR GAZE!

HUH...? THAT OLD MAN'S
MIND MUST BE UNHINGED...
WE MUST SAVE HIM.



WHAT...? SOME
ONE ELSE ATTEMPTING TO
FLY... AND SUCCEEDING?
I THOUGHT I WOULD BE
THE FIRST.

FEAR NOT,
AGED SIR-



DO NOT ATTEMPT TO
UNDER ME. I AM IN NO
DANGER...

MAYHAP
THOU KNOWEST
BEST, BUT I
DOUBT...



AH, I SHOULD HAVE
RESCUED HIM
DESPITE HIMSELF.

WASTE NO TIME ON
REGRETS, KNIGHT.
I AM STILL HAILE AND
HEARTY MY WINGS
HAVE NOT FAILED ME.

CRASH!



IT'S AMAZING I
HAD THOUGHT THEE
MAD... BUT NOW I
THINK I KNOW WHO
THOU MUST BE.

I AM LEONARDO
DA VINCI!



AS I THOUGHT THE
GREATEST MIND OF MY TIME,
AND ONE OF THE GREATEST
MINDS OF ALL TIME!



MANY HAVE THOUGHT ME MAD --
AND LIVED TO CHANGE THE R
MINDS. COUNT LUDOVICO, FOR
EXAMPLE... HERE HE COMES
NOW, AND UP TO NO GOOD!
THOU HAST BEST LEAVE
ME, KNIGHT!

IF YOU MOUNT
ED BRAVO KLEPT
LUDOVICO IS
THINE ENEMY,
THEN WOULD I
FAIR REMAIN AT
THY SIDE.

HA. I'VE GOT YOU NOW, LEONARDO. EVEN IF YOU CAN FLY, IN FIVE MINUTES YOU'LL BE A DEAD PIGEON.

HMM... THIS VILLANOUS LUDOVICO DEEMS HIMSELF A PROPHET.

KILL THE OLD MAGICIAN!

SO HE THINKS LEONARDO IS A MAGICIAN INSTEAD OF A GREAT SCIENTIST. I'LL SHOW HIM MAGIC OF MY OWN!

THESE WEAPONS ARE AS DANGEROUS TO THEIR WIELDERS AS TO THEIR VICTIMS!

WHA...? BULLETS DON'T HARM HIM? WELL, MY SWORD WILL FIX HIM!

SAVEST THOU!

INCREDIBLE. NO BLADE CAN BE SO SHARP

AND NO FIST CAN BE SO HARD... AAAA!

IT SEEMETH THAT LUDOVICO HATH NO CHIN FOR FIGHTING... AND HIS MEN NO STOMACH!

HE IS A PATENT VILLAIN AND WILL TRY AGAIN. BUT LET US FORGET HIM FOR THE WHILE AND GO TO MY HOME AS A FELLOW SCIENTIST. YOU MAY BE INTERESTED...

HERE IS AN IRON TUBE TO THROW HEAVY STONES INTO AN ENEMY'S RANKS. I NEED BUT TO BOIL WATER IN THIS CHAMBER

BY MY HALLOWE. A CANNON OPERATED BY STEAM

AND THIS IS A VESSEL THAT
CAN TRAVEL UNDER WATER

A SUBMARINE
BY MY SWORD. LEONARDO
ALL I HAVE READ OF THEE
IS NOT HALF THE TRUTH!
THOU ART A GENIUS TO
PUT GENIUSES TO SHAME

HERE IS A PORTRAIT
I PAINTED!

THE MONA LISA!
A MASTERPIECE!

I DO NOT DESERVE
YOUR FLATTERY, KNIGHT!
MANY OF MY INVENTIONS
SEEM CLEVER...
BUT THEY FAIL.
THIS TIME-MACHINE,
FOR EXAMPLE

WHAT
SAYEST THOU?
A TIME MACHINE?
AH, NOW FORTUNATE
I WAS TRANSPORTED
TO YOUR TIME. THOU
ART THE ONE MAN IN ANY
AGE WHO CAN HELP
ME

I MUST RETURN TO MY
OWN TIME AND THOU HAST
THE POWER TO SEND
ME

BUT I HAVE
JUST SAID, KNIGHT...
THE MACHINE IS A
FAILURE. I MADE
IT ACCORDING TO
CAREFUL PLANS,
BUT FOR SOME
REASON, IT
DOES NOT
WORK!

WELL, THIS MACHINE IS
LIKE THE DUMMYS, BUT
NONE THE LESS ARE
THERE DIFFERENCES!
I WONDER...

I HAVE IT, LEONARDO THE
DUMMY'S MACHINE USED
ELECTRICITY... THINE DOST
NOT FOR ELECTRICITY IS
NOT YET DISCOVERED!

WHAT IS
THIS
ELECTRICITY?

LEONARDO'S POWERFUL MIND ABSORBS
THE SHINING KNIGHT'S EXPLANATION
LIKE A SPONGE ABSORBING WATER!
SOME TIME LATER...

THOU SEEST, LEONARDO,
THE POWER OF THE WIND IS
CHANGED INTO THIS ELECTRICITY
BY A DYNAMO

I WISH I HAD THOUGHT
OF SUCH A MARVEL!
THANKS TO IT, I WILL
BE ABLE TO SEND YOU
TO YOUR OWN TIME!

AND THAT I THINK SOME
CENTURIES IN THE PAST

THIS LEONARDO...
BUT IT'S NO MORE NOW
SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE...
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY—
GUS TO BE EXACT

QUICK EXPLANATION
AND SOON...

THEN GUS IT WILL BE
BUT I MUST WARN YOU, RIGHT
...THERE'S DANGER THE
MACHINE'S UNTESTED...

THERE IS NEED FOR
HASTE, I WILL TAKE
THE RISK MY CONRADES
MAY BE IN DANGER

BUT BEFORE LEONARDO
CAN THROW THE SWITCH...

NO MATTER HOW COMES
THAT VILET LADY DO...
I CANNOT LEAVE YOU ALONE
TO FACE HIM!

I WILL TAKE
CARE OF MYSELF,
RIGHT! YOU
WORRY ABOUT
YOUR CONRADES!

IT SHOULD TAKE BUT
LITTLE TIME TO DISPOSE
OF THE RASCAL AND THOU
ART TOO GREAT A MAN FOR
THE WORLD TO SPARE THEE

BACK ROUNDER, HERE
THOU TASTE MY
FIST AGAIN!

YOU WON'T CATCH ME BY
SURPRISE THIS TIME! AND
WE'VE GOT REAL WEAPONS
NOW

THESE CROSS-
BOWS REALLY

'THOU WASTEST
THY TIME,
SCOUNDREL!
MY MAGICAL
WARDS OFF BULLETS
AND ARROWS
A-LIKE

AS THOU CANST
SEE,

WHY? I
SHOOT AT HIS
FACE! THAT'S
UNPROTECTED

NAY MY COUNTEINANCE
IS GUARDED BY MY
OWN STALWART ARM!

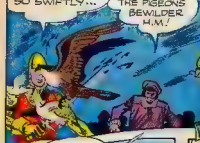
BUT AS SIR JUSTIN'S DUMFOUNDED OPPONENT DESPAIRS... THE MYSTERIOUS FATES INTERVENE IN THEIR OWN WEIRD FASHION!

WHA...? THESE BIRDS SWERVE SO SWIFTLY...

THE FALCON AND THE PIGEONS BEWILDER H.M.!

HERE ONE SECOND, GONE THE NEXT! THE PIGEONS HAVE ESCAPED. BUT THEY HAVE LEFT MOST OF THE R FEATHERS

AND THE FEATHERS ARE BLINDING HIM! NOW IS MY CHANCE!

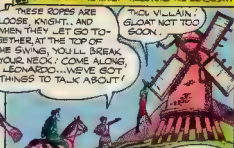


WHEN THE SHINING KNIGHT RECOVERS HIS SENSES...

IF I CAN'T STAB HIM, I CAN STUN HIM!

THESE ROPES ARE LOOSE, KNIGHT... AND WHEN THEY LET GO TOGETHER, AT THE TOP OF THE SWING, YOU'LL BREAK YOUR NECK! COME ALONG, LEONARDO... WE'VE GOT THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!

THOU VILLAIN! GLOAT NOT TOO SOON.



AS HIS ENEMY DEPARTS...

HMM, MY BONDS LOOSEN... SOON WILL I FALL!

BUT MAYHAP CAN I BREAK THE FORCE OF THE BLOW... I WILL MAKE A TEAR IN THIS CANVAS!

AH, MY HANDS ARE LOOSE... I MUST ACT QUICKLY!!



WIFT HANDS SNATCH
AT THE TORN CANVAS...
AND AS THE FALLING FORM
BEGINS TO PLUMMET
DOWNWARD...

THE CANVAS IS
RIPPING... BUT THE RE-
SISTANCE SLOWS
MY DESCENT.
NOW TO RESCUE
LEONARDO



MEANWHILE...

YOU KNOW A LOT,
LEONARDO... BUT
I WANT TO LEARN
ONLY ONE
THING 'THE
SECRET OF
MAKING
GOLD'

'FOOL'
DO YOU
THINK I
WOULD
WASTE MY
TIME ON SUCH
NONSENSE?
I SEEK ONLY
WHAT WILL
BENEFIT
HUMANITY.



BETTER THINK OF
BENEFITING YOURSELF!
YOU'LL TALK... OR
ELSE I TIE HIM TO
THE WHEEL, BOYS!



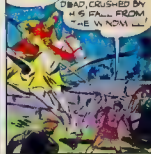
...SUDDENLY...

START WHIRLING
HIM AROUND, GIOVANN!
WE'LL SEE HOW DIZZY
HE GETS BEFORE HE
MAKES UP HIS MIND
TO TALK!



HOLD,
VARLETS.

HIM AGAIN. BUT
HE SHOULD BE
DEAD, CRUSHED BY
HIS FALL FROM
THE WINDOW!!

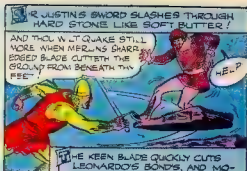


NAY, VARLET, I AM
NOT SO EASY TO
KILL.

HEY,
LEMMIE
DOWN!

AS THOU WILT,
VILE ROGUE!





FORWARD THROUGH
TIME, THE SHINING KNIGHT
AND HIS MAGIC STEED
WHEE! UNT...!

CHAPTER 7

METHINKS THIS IS THE DWARF'S
RETREAT. SUCCESS IS OURS,
VICTORY AND NOW TO RECALL
OUR CONRADES...



LOOK WHAT'S
COMING, STRIPESY

AM A REAL
MEAL AT LAST, & I
MY BELLY'S BEEN CRYIN'
FOR THE STUFF SO LONG,
I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S
TRUE! I GOTTA
PUNCH MYSELF!



WELCOME HOME,
BRAVE CONRADES-
IN-ARMS!

WELL,
I'LL BE... BUT GEE,
KNIGHT, YOU SHOULD'A
WAITED TILL I ATE
THAT MEAL!



AH, THE STAR-SPANGLED KID AND
STRIPESY NOW HAPPY THEY WILL
BE TO RETURN. FIRST, I
JUST FOCUS THE MACHINE
WIRE SHARPLY...



SUDDENLY, A SHARP CLUCK, AND THEN...

OWW, I SHOULDN'TA
DONE THAT. IT WAS A
VRAGE. ALL THAT
STUFF TO EAT HAS
DISAPPEARED!

NO WONDER! WAKE
UP, STRIPESY.
WE'RE BACK IN
OUR OWN TIME!



AND NOW, IN QUICK SUCCESSION...

LOOK WING.
THE SHINING
KNIGHT HAS BROUGHT
US BACK!

PARBLEU. WHAT
VILLANOUS SCOUNDREL
DARES TO...

I SEE
MET' CLAYSON
LI HO GONNA
MISS US

BETTER GET
OUT OF THE HABIT
OF TALKING LIKE A
VUSKETEER, SPEEDY...
WE'RE BACK IN OUR
OWN TIME!



AND FINALLY SO JUSTIN
REACHES BACK INTO
ANCEST COME...

WHAT LL DO TO
DANNY FOR VARN
US GO THROUGH
THIS

WHAT MAKES
ALL THIS NO
GET THE CHANCE.
RATTLE. EXCUSE ME,
I'VEY FARDNER



ND ONE LAST CLICK OF THE SWITCH...

SO YA SAP. HEY TANT DANNY YOU
FINALLY GOT IT ALL...
AROUND... IF THE SHINN
KNIGHT WOULD
WE GET HERE!

GET THE
ANSWER TO
THAT ONE
LATER. EX-
PARDNER



THAT'S RIGHT,
WE'RE FIGHTIN'
AGAINST EACH
OTHER NOW WELL
WE LL TAKE THE
GOLD, SAP

HUH? WHAT
GOLD? THE
KNIGHT DONT
BRING T BACK
W TH US!

THE MACHINE
CANNOT OPERATE
ON GOLD, ROGUES!
THAT I LEARNED
FROM LEONARDO!

SO THAT'S WHY THE
DUNNY DONT TRY TO USE
T LIKE WE TRIED TO. HE KNEW
IT WOULDN'T WORK! OWW,
WHEN I THINK WHAT WE
WENT THROUGH...



AND WHAT YOU'RE GONNA
GO T-ROUGH NOW

AAAAA

TH THIS PIECE OF UNFINISHED BUSI-
NESS DISPOSED OF, THE SEVEN
SOLDIERS OF VICTORY MEET FOR A
BRIEF COUNCIL OF WAR.



CONRATES
NO NEED TO
DISCUSS OUR
ADVENTURES NOW!
R'ONE TASK
REMAINS
TO US!

DUNNY NOT
KNOW WE BACK..
POOR DUMB
DUNNY

YES NOW'S
OUR CHANCE
TO SWAGH HIS
OUTT FOR
GOOD.

I
STILL SAY,
BEWARE OF
TRAPS THAT LIT-
TLE SHOTS S
NIGHT TRICKY



THE LEGIONNAIRES ADVANCE WAR LY...

WELL WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT THAT
THIS S TURNING OUT TO
BE EASY AFTER
ALL

STAND
BACK
PARTNER
VE RUN INTO
SOMETHIN LIKE
THIS BEFORE



NOT TOO CLOSE, BOYS..
THANK 'LL SEE WHAT A
BULLET WILL DO



WAKE UP,
DUMMY! YOU'RE
TRAPPED!

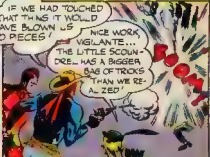
WHY, HE DOESN'T
MOVE!



THE SHARP ROAR OF A
REVOLVER IS FOLLOWED INSTANTLY
BY ANOTHER EXPLOSION!

IF WE HAD TOUCHED
THAT THING IT WOULD
HAVE BLOWN US
TO PIECES!

NICE WORK,
VIGILANTE...
THE LITTLE SCOUND-
RE... HAS A BIGGER
BAG OF TRICKS
THAN WE RE-
ALIZED



BUT IN THE NEXT ROOM...

ANOTHER ONE
WELL 'LL TREAT
THIS THE SAME
WAY



SUDDENLY...

DON'T SHOOT
IT'S ME

YOU SURE
SMOKED HIM
OUT THAT TIME,
VIG

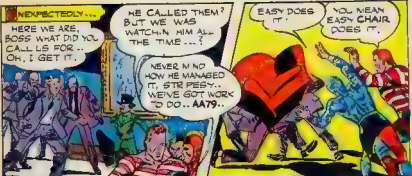
HMM, I
RECKON I GOT
MORE REASON
TO SHOOT THIS
ONE THAN THE
OTHER



NO NO VIGILANTE,
YOU WOULDN'T DO
THAT ' IT'S AGAINST
YOUR OWN
PRINCIPLES

I WAS
ONLY
KIDDIN',
YOU LITTLE
SIDE-WINDER
BUT IF YOU
A'N'T CAREFUL





UNEXPECTEDLY...

HERE WE ARE,
BOSS WHAT DID YOU
CALL US FOR..
OH, I GET IT.

HE CALLED THEM?
BUT WE WAS
WATCHIN' HIM ALL
THE TIME...?

NEVER MIND
HOW HE MANAGED
IT, STRIPESY..
WE'VE GOT WORK
TO DO.. AA79..

EASY DOES
IT!

YOU MEAN
EASY CHAIR
DOES IT.

WITH THE SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY FIGHTING TOGETHER, THE BATTLE IS SHORT, AND FOR THE VICTORS. SWEET...



GOSH, KID, ONE DUMMY
WASN'T ENOUGH...WE'RE
TURNING ALL THESE
GUYS INTO DUMMIES

JOIN YOUR
PALS CHUM

I CHOP WISE GUY
CLOCK DOWN TO
DUMMIES LEVEL!



TALKING OF THE
LITTLE VARMINT.
WHERE IS HE?

HE DIDN'T GET
OUT THROUGH THE
DOOR I KEPT AN
EYE ON IT!

RIGHT, BUT I THINK
I KNOW HOW HE
ESCAPED.

NOTICE THE BUTTONS...
ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS
PRESS THEM AND CALL HIS
MEN! THAT'S ONE REASON
HE BACKED UP AGAINST
THE WALL! AND
THE OTHER...





IN THIS DOOR! IF WE HURRY, WE CAN STILL CATCH HIM!



IT'S UP TO US TO STOP HIM, SPEEDY! HE'S ARROWING FOR THE DOOR!

AND SO ARE WE!

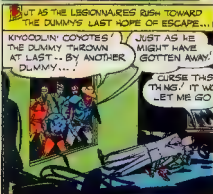


BOWSTRINGS TWANG LIKE HARPS, AND SWIFT SHAPTS BING THROUGH THE AIR IN A SYMPHONY OF TERRIFYING SOUND...

STAY AWAY FROM THAT DOOR, LITTLE MAN!



YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME YET! I'LL STILL MANAGE TO GET AWAY!



BUT AS THE LEGIONNAIRES RUSH TOWARD THE DUMMY'S LAST HOPE OF ESCAPE...

KIWOODLIN! COYOTES! THE DUMMY THROWN AT LAST -- BY ANOTHER DUMMY...

JUST AS HE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN AWAY!

CURSE THIS THING! IT WON'T LET ME GO!



AND NEITHER WILL WE ONCE WE'RE ON THE TAIL OF A LOWDOWN SKUNK, WE FOLLOW IT TO THE END!

IN ANY TIME IN ANY CLIME, WE MAKE HIM SORRY HE RAN ACROSS THE SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY!

THE END

HEAD-WORK

by Bill Erwin

COACH FORBES' keen gray eyes looked at the gangling figure of Hap Henry, slumped in a chair in the Forbes' cozy living room. Lsa the Coach's daughter put down her knitting and forced a smile.

"Don't worry so much Hap," she said softly. "We'll get along without Horse. After all, Blake's basketball outfit has always functioned as a team."

Hap looked at her glumly, unable to say anything. He felt today's loss keenly. After all, as Captain of the Blake team, he was supposed to lead the boys to victory. But it just seemed as if the bottom had dropped out of things. Certainly it had in the game today. After all, Universe was one of the weakest teams in the Inter-college League. But to beat crack Blake by one point!

Hap's lips worked. "Horse," he said dully. "He let us down." "Now, now, boy," Coach Forbes' voice was remonstrative. "I know how you feel. You and Horse Ma have played together on the same team for three years, and brought Blake U. right into the front." He got up from his chair and walked over to Hap. "Three championships you two boys have won, Hap," he said. "But don't forget you had three other men behind you. Good men."

Hap essayed a smile he didn't feel. "Sure, Coach. I guess you're right. But I still can't figure out why Horse decided to spend his last year at Merton." He raised up to look at the coach. "Can you?"

Coach Forbes shook his head, not answering. He was thinking perhaps it would be better not to leave Hap knowing what actually had taken place. There was a good deal of talk around about Merton College and its subsidizing Merton was a new school and it had a lot of rich backers among them. Tom

Meany the millionaire sportsman Forbes knew Meany, knew that he backed only winners. He had to have winners. And there wasn't any doubt that happy-go-lucky and dumb, Horse Maoney had listened to the bankroll. Only nobody could be sure to prove it.

"What about the championship with Blake?" Hap's voice was confident. He looked tightly at Hap. "Come, sugar," she said. "I don't think I have any object to your breaking down, but if you don't stop at the Pink Poodle," She looked at her father.

Coach Forbes grinned. "At this time, go ahead, Hap. It will do you good."

"Nope," Hap took his head, rose from his chair. "If you'll both excuse me," he said dully. "I think I'll go in." He knew it sounded rude, but he couldn't help it. Not tonight. He didn't think he'd feel this bad about it.

The girl and her father looked at the door close behind him. Their eyes met, but neither voiced the thought that showed in them.

It was the same thought that was troubling Hap. Hap was because he had lost it. "Don't leave the team," his father had said. "You're going to miss that basketball and all the things that Hap wanted to do. He's got to go on his feet and look for himself. He's got to go on his own."

Hap. The whisper came from the shadow of the ancient elms.

Hap stopped. "Horse."

The big guard disengaged himself from the shadows. "I heard you were at the Coach's house," he said. "I've been waiting for you."

Hap looked at him. "You could have come in. Why wait here?"

Horse laughed. "Well, you

know, I figured maybe they thought I let the team down." His voice sounded aggrieved. "After all, a guy's got a right to change his school. I just thought I wanted to graduate from Merton."

"Just thought?" Hap's heart leaped. "You mean you changed your mind? You're coming back?" Gosh, we need you, Horse." He grasped his former team mate's shoulder. "Come on, we'll tell the coach."

"Hey, wait a minute." The fellow disengaged himself from Hap's grip. "I didn't say that I just wanted to talk to you, Hap. Tell you about Merton." His voice rose enthusiastically. "It's a swell school, kid, and you and me could sure put their basketball team over. Why the way we've been playing together all these years—nobody could stop us. And you should see the equipment. That's M—any sure spreads himself out. What's the matter?" He stopped, noticing the sudden stiffening of Hap's shoulder.

"I've heard about Meany," Hap said dully. "Even if Coach Forbes doesn't think I have." His lips tightened. "What are they saying you, Horse?"

"Horse bit his lip. "Then, what do you mean? I'm paid and you know it." His voice rose angrily. "And you don't think it's only because you're the one who's come dough out of the school?" But I don't mind." His hand fell heavily on Hap's shoulder. "Get it, Hap. I don't get paid."

Hap winced under the vise-like grip. His face in the darkness showed white. "Okay, Horse," he said. "You don't get paid." His eyes gittered. "And you can go back and tell Meany for me that pay or not I'd never quit my team mates and my school."

Horse's grip relaxed. "Okay,"

he said. "No need to get mad. Shake?" He held out his hand. Hap, still white-faced, looked at it. Then he turned and walked away, fighting to keep down the red-hot anger seething within him.

And then, suddenly, it was all clear to him. The things Ihsa used to tell him about Horse. How the latter really wasn't all he appeared to be. That beneath his friendly exterior was a cool calculating level. "He's a money player," Ihsa had pronounced shrewdly. "And he'll always be where the money is."

Hap's teeth worried his lower lip. "And she's right," he told himself. "She's right. Nevertheless, he's one of the best basketball players in the country right now."

Yes, you couldn't take that away from Horse Maloney. He was a natural, a four letter man, a guy born to be an athlete. And he was always out to win. But could he do it without Hap Henry and three other thinking machines behind him?

That was a question the sportswriters asked and answered within the next few months. Meany had spared no money to get talent. He built a wonderful team around Horse Maloney and was rewarded by seeing the Merton five surge steadily ahead toward the Inter-college championships.

Meanwhile his old sidekick Hap Henry seemed to have come out of his slump. The whole Blake team was fighting fighting hard. They matched Horse Maloney no doubt about it. The winning scores, usually only a basket or two margin showed this. But just the same they were wins and when the eve before the play off came around Blake was neck and neck with Merton.

Hap hadn't seen Horse again since that eventful evening under the eaves. Merton was located in a thriving city twenty miles from Blake U. And there Horse found plenty to amuse him. Night clubs, dancing, gambling—the Horse was in

his element, but because he was a natural athlete, this unnatural way of living didn't show on him.

"He's a wonder, that boy," Coach Forbes said, shaking his head. As was customary he played host to his team in his home the evening before the title game.

Ihsa, surrounded by the players, looked up. "You been a blunder, Dad," she laughed.

Coach Forbes grinned across the room. "Don't think a wise crack will remove the threat," he said. "Just the same, I think my boys can beat him. What do you say, Hap?"

"We're sure going to try!" His teammates looked at him. In the old days, when he had been playing with Horse, Hap Henry had been full of fun. But now, he seldom showed any of his old humor. His face was thin, showing the strain under which he had been playing these past few months. Now, he repeated. "We're going to try. And Horse had better look out he doesn't trip himself up."

Hap smiled. Yes, that was the only thing he had to hold onto. Horse had never used head-work; brilliance and flashiness had been his stock in trade. But good, clean thinking never! Just the same, the team he had teamed him sure was good.

And just how good they were, Hap Henry and the Blake five discovered the next evening. The auditorium was packed, and the cattle-crazed fans of late Blake and Merton were on the edge of their seats all evening as the game sawed back and forth.

On the floor, the ten men moved like parts in a well-oiled precision machine. Not a word had passed between Hap Henry and Horse Maloney all during the ten fleeting minutes of the bitterly fought game.

Hap, dribbling down the floor now, saw the white face of Coach Forbes watching him. On the opposite side of the court, Tom Meany, flamboyant

in Merton colors, roared at Horse Maloney to "Get him. Get that Blake flash!"

Hap side-stepped, but Horse's long arm flashed out. The ball bounced to the center of the court. One of the Merton players retrieved it, snapped it back to a waiting guard.

Hap's eyes darted to the clock. Only seconds to go, and Merton was leading by one point. Another basket would clinch the title for them. His eyes focussed on Horse who was moving warily into position.

Hap's heart was pounding so hard it seemed to be slowing his feet.

"Swish!" There it was. The ball sailed through the air, straight into Horse Maloney's waiting hand. The big Horse grinned. His strategy had worked to perfection. He had managed to get free and now the ball was his, to work down the court just as he had been doing all season. The title was in the bag!

He loped down. Suddenly, he looked up as a familiar figure cut toward the Merton basket and stretched out its hand suddenly. "Horse here!"

Horse snatched the ball! And then he roared with rage as the realization of what he had done struck him. He had thrown the ball to Hap Henry, on the opposing team. The habit of years but he had turned to become his own enemy.

Hap Henry wildly across the court. But it was too late. Already Hap had the ball, shot it to the waiting Blake forward and two points, to win the game just as the whistle blew. Blind with rage, Horse plunged at Hap, who sidestepped. There was a sharp crack as the huge Merton forward struck his own bench with his head, and lay still.

Pandemonium broke loose in the gym then, and Horse was momentarily forgotten. But not by Hap Henry who was trying to release Ihsa Forbes' arms from his neck. "I've got to help Horse," he said, grinning. "After all, for once he used his head!"

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